



# Vertical Distributions of Fish Passing Over McNary TSWs: Hydroacoustic Evaluation

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# Objective

- ▶ Evaluate the distribution of run-at-large fish approaching and passing the McNary Dam TSWs
  - Provide context for shallow and deep release pipe elevations (balloon-tagged fish)
    - Potential for injury to populations of fish



# Compare Vertical Distributions

- ▶ Season/Species
- ▶ TSW1 (bay 22)  
vs  
TSW2 (bay 20)
- ▶ Spill Treatments



# Methods

- ▶ Fixed-aspect active hydroacoustics
  - Send a sound pulse and listen for echoes bouncing off fish
- ▶ Sample run-at-large fish
  - All fish swimming through the beam
    - Tags not required
- ▶ Monitored fish passing TSW1 and TSW2
  - North, Center, and South locations within each TSW bay
- ▶ Sampling from April 13 to August 2
  - Some gaps at TSW1 due to equipment failure

# Treatment Tests

## ► Spring Study

- 2006 Modified Spill Pattern (during 2007 passage)
- 2007 Test Spill Pattern

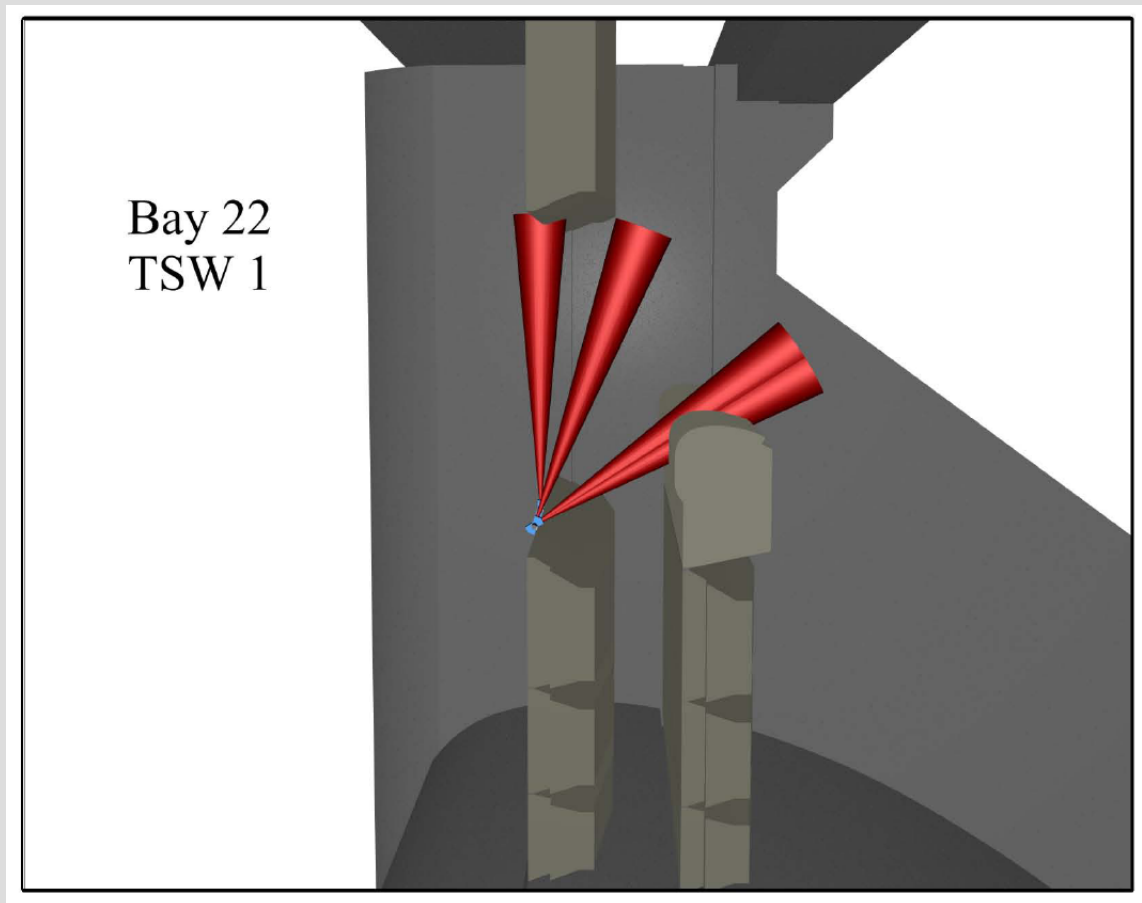
## ► Summer Study

- 40% Spill
- 60% Spill

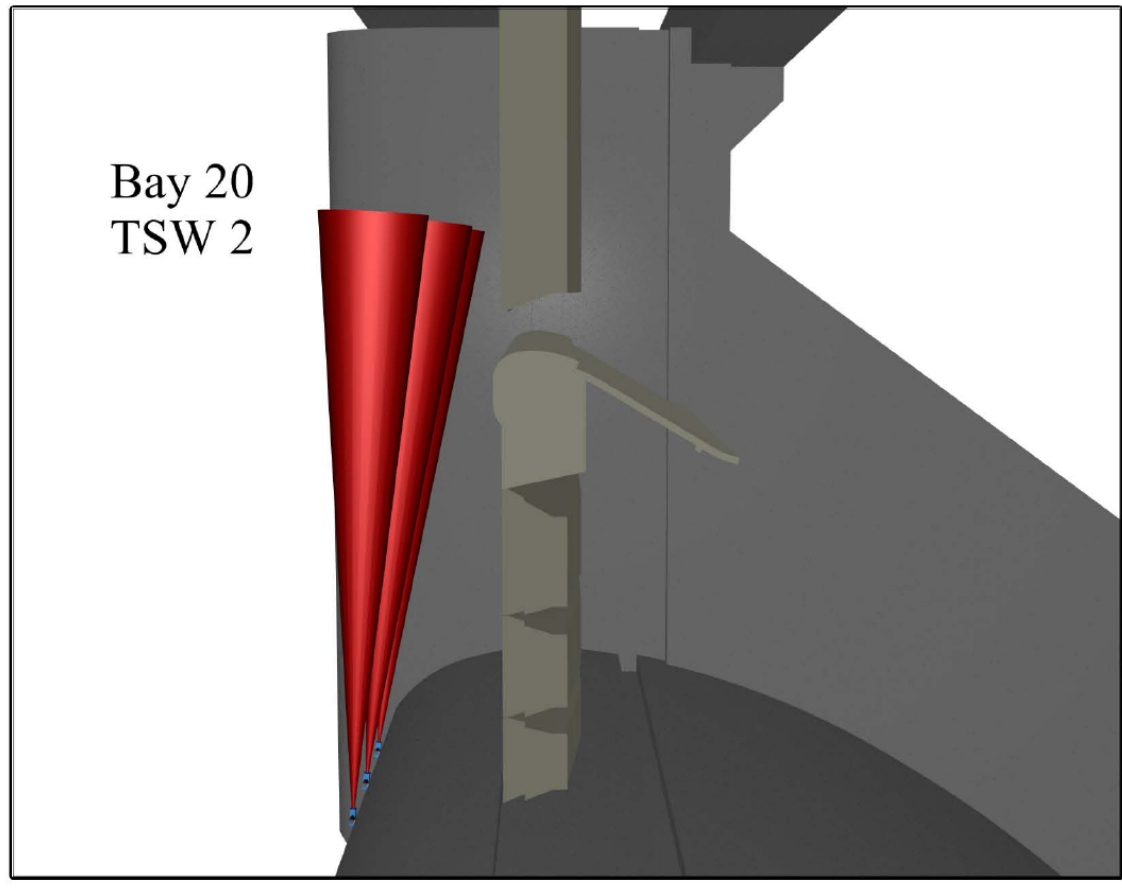
# Echoes Recorded as Fish Pass Through Sample Area



# Transducers Mounted on Lower Leaf in Stoplog Slot at TSW1



# Transducers Mounted on Concrete at TSW2





# Results

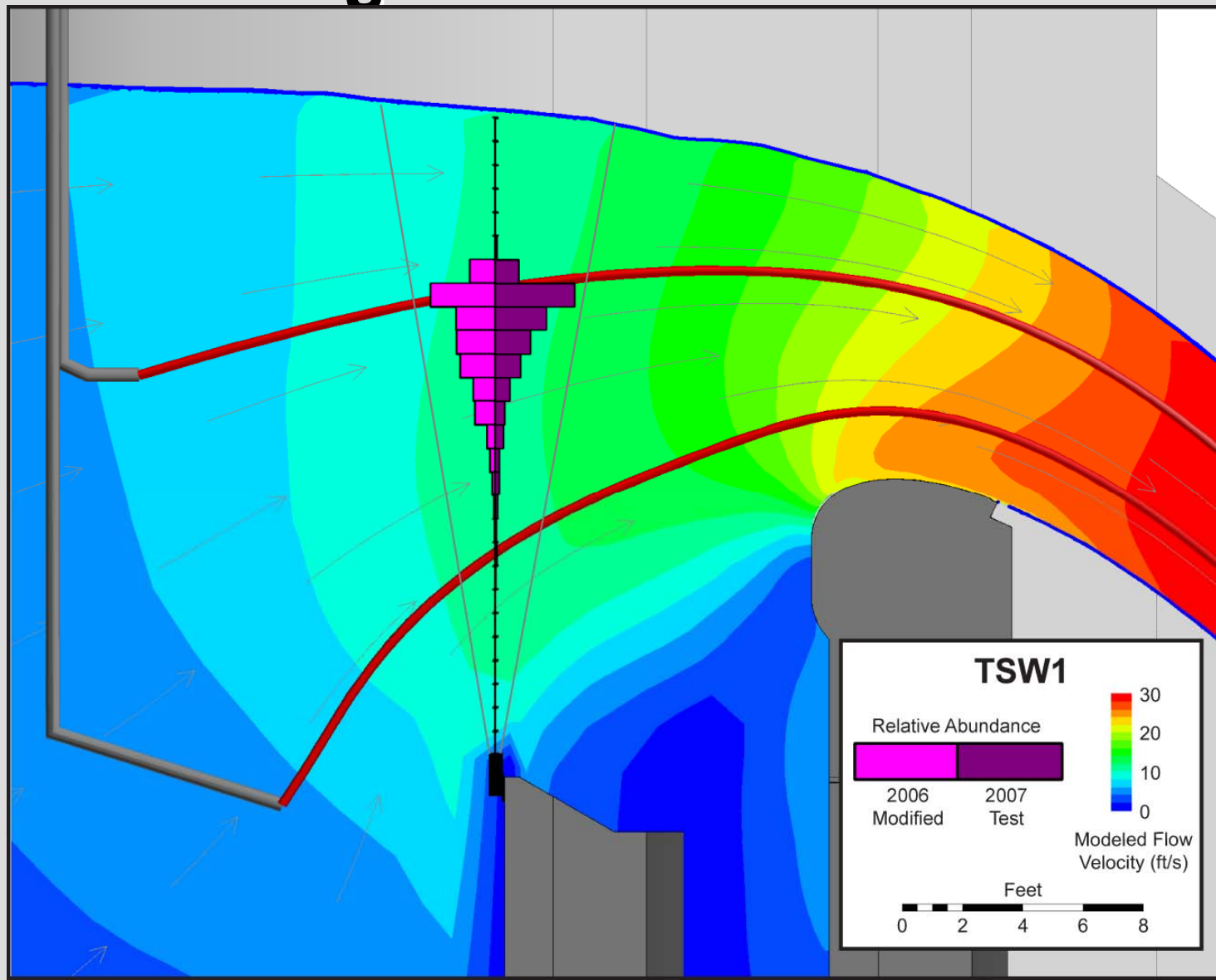
## ► Vertical Distributions of Fish

- Compare between treatments in spring and summer at both TSWs

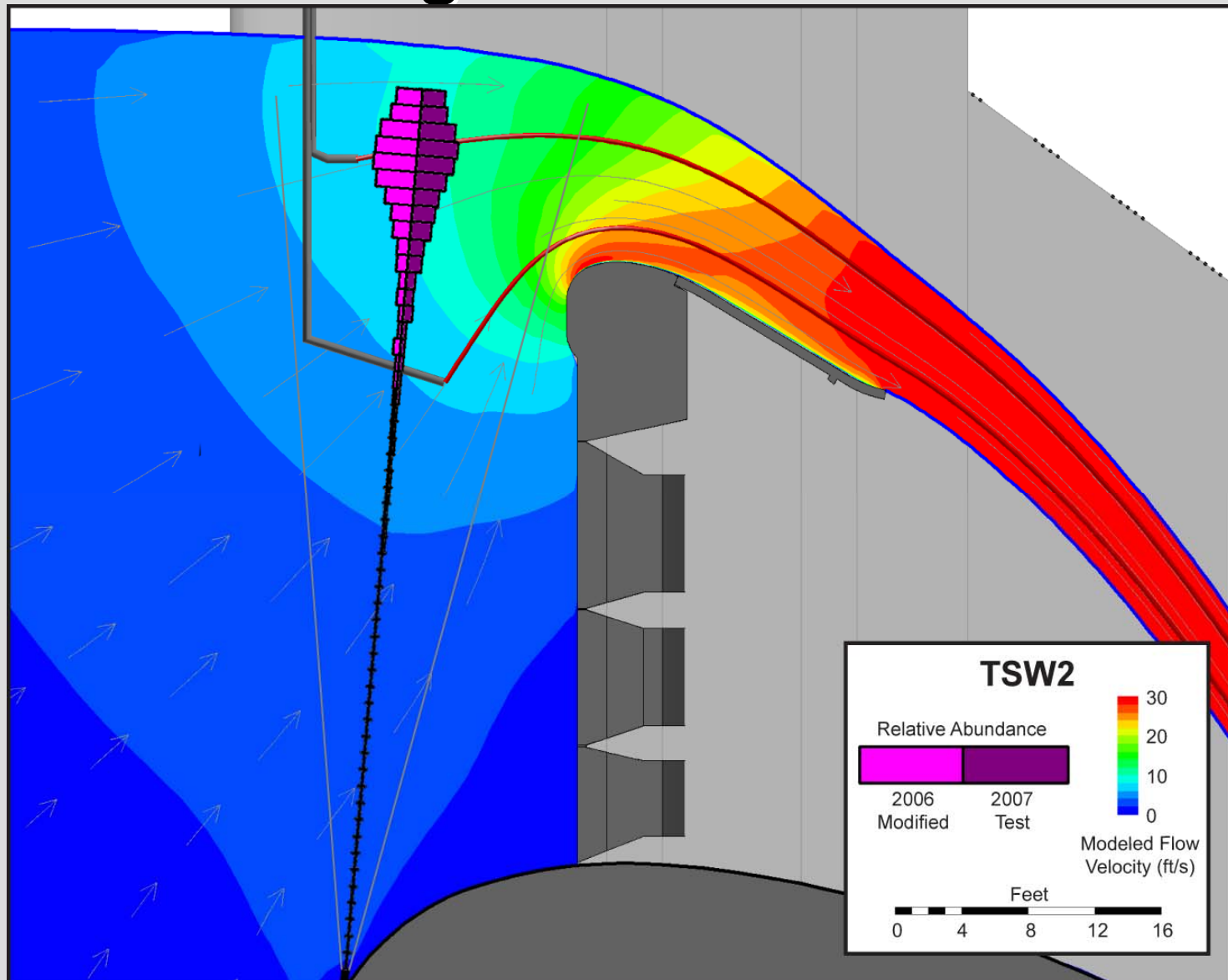
## ► Proportions below release pipe elevations

- What proportion of run-at-large fish would experience similar conditions and potential for injury suggested by balloon tag study results

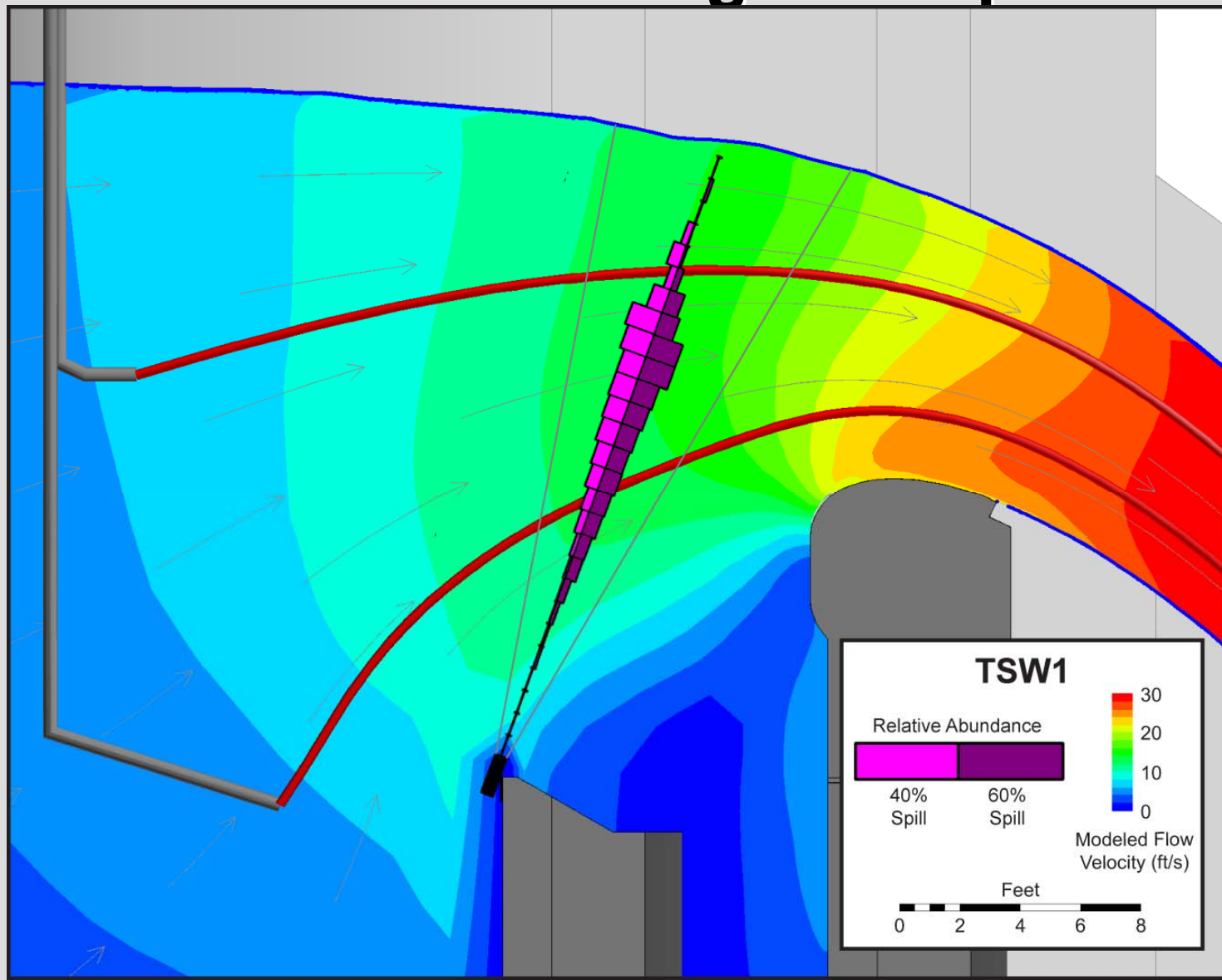
# Fish Deeper at TSW1 in Spring during 2006 Modified Pattern



# Fish Deeper at TSW2 in Spring during 2007 Test Pattern

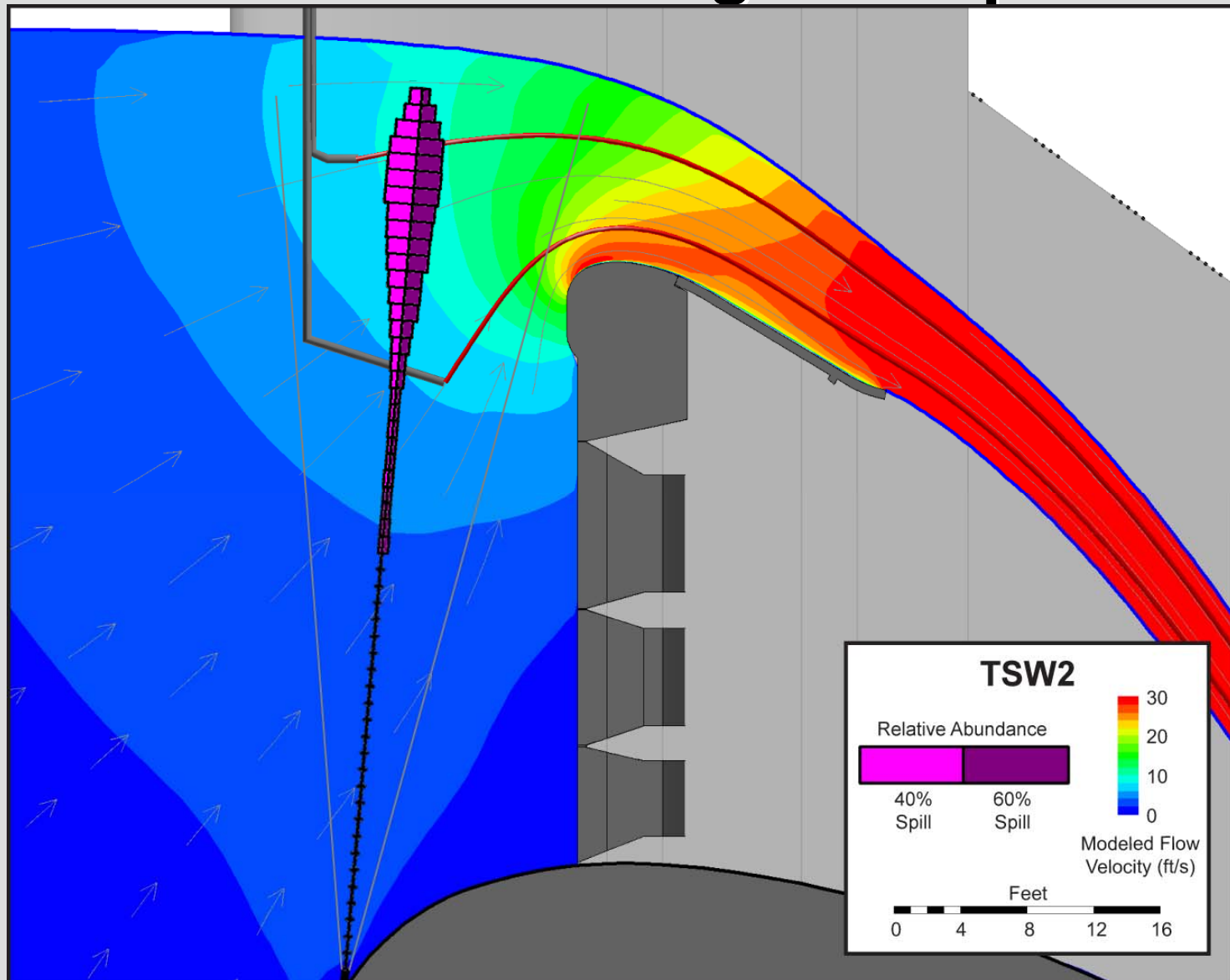


# Fish Deeper at TSW1 in Summer during 60% Spill





# Fish Deeper at TSW2 in Summer during 60% Spill



# Few Fish Below Deep Release Pipe

Release elevation  
(ft above crest)

Spring

Summer

TSW1

Shallow  
(329 ft amsl)

75%

80%

Deep  
(314 ft amsl)

1%

12%

TSW2

Shallow  
(332 ft amsl)

65%

76%

Deep  
(319 ft amsl)

2%

6%

# Conclusions

- ▶ Run-at-large fish deeper in the Summer
- ▶ Spring Fish
  - Deeper during 2006 Modified at TSW1
  - Deeper during 2007 Test at TSW2
- ▶ Summer Fish
  - Deeper during 60% spill
- ▶ Release Pipe Elevations
  - Very few run-of river fish pass at or below lower release pipe elevation

# Acknowledgements

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## ► Associated Underwater Services Inc.

- Installation and removal of underwater sampling gear

## ► University of Iowa

- CFD